

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A flashlight comprising a handle and a head pivotally mounted on said handle, means for mounting a bulb within the head, said handle adapted to receive a battery, circuit means to adapt to create an electrical circuit between a battery in said handle and a bulb whereby the bulb can be turned on and off, said handle having a pair of spaced upstanding ears, said head having opposed sides and being pivotally mounted between said upstanding ears, openings in said ears and in said opposed sides of said head, pivot means mounted in said openings in said head and said ears whereby said head can pivot relative to said upstanding ears and to said handle, said circuit means including electrical head contact means on said head and electrical ear contact means on said ears, said head electrical contact means and said ear electrical contact means being in electrical circuit with each other, said ear electrical contact means and said head electrical contact means being adjacent to the openings in said ears and said head, respectively.

2. A flashlight as set forth in claim 1, wherein said head electrical contact means comprise connecting head contacts mounted at the openings in said head.
3. A flashlight as set forth in claim 2, wherein said ear electrical contact means comprise elongated ear contacts mounted at said ears.
4. A flashlight as set forth in claim 3 wherein said connecting head contacts comprise a positive connecting contact in circuit with the positive side of a bulb and a negative connecting contact in circuit with the negative side of a bulb, and wherein said elongated ear contacts comprise a positive elongated ear contact in circuit with the positive terminal of a battery and a negative elongated ear contact in circuit with the negative terminal of a battery.
5. A flashlight as set forth in claim 4, wherein a switch assembly is mounted within the handle and wherein the positive elongated ear contact is in circuit with said switch assembly.

6. A flashlight as set forth in claim 5, wherein said switch assembly comprises a contact carrier having contact means adapted to open and close a circuit between the positive elongated ear contact and the positive terminal of a battery.
7. A flashlight as set forth in claim 6, wherein said switch assembly has a first contact in circuit with said positive elongated ear contact and a second contact in circuit with the positive terminal of a battery and wherein said contact means on said contact carrier is adapted to open and close the circuit between the elongated ear contact and the positive terminal of the battery.
8. A flashlight as set forth in claim 7 wherein the negative elongated ear contact is in circuit with the negative terminal of a battery.
9. A flashlight as set forth in claim 8 wherein said connecting head contacts comprise u-shaped contacts mounted in the openings in said head.
10. A flashlight as set forth in claim 9 wherein said connecting head contacts and said elongated ear contacts are in contact with each other.

11. A flashlight as set forth in claim 10 wherein said connecting head contacts and said elongated ear contacts have openings therein.
12. A flashlight as set forth in claim 11, wherein said pivot means comprises pivot pins extending through the openings in said ears, said elongated ear contacts, said head contacts and said head and extend within said head.
13. A flashlight as set forth in claim 12, wherein a ratchet wheel is mounted on a pivot pin within said head and wherein a pawl is mounted within said head in contact with said ratchet wheel.
14. A flashlight as set forth in claim 13, wherein said ratchet wheel is a toothed ratchet wheel and is mounted on said pivot pin and is adapted to rotate with the pivotal movement of said head and wherein said pawl has a finger adapted to enter a tooth in said ratchet wheel to hold the head in a predetermined position.
15. A flashlight as set forth in claim 14 wherein a ratchet wheel is mounted on each pivot pin and wherein a pawl is mounted adjacent each ratchet wheel.

16. A flashlight as set forth in claim 15 wherein said ears are flat and said opposed sides are flat.
17. A flashlight comprising a handle and a head pivotally mounted on said handle, means for mounting a bulb within the head, said handle adapted to receive a battery, circuit means to adapt to create an electrical circuit between battery in said handle and a bulb whereby the bulb can be turned on and off, said handle having a pair of spaced upstanding ears, said head having opposed sides and being pivotally mounted between said upstanding ears, openings in said ears and in said opposed sides of said head, pivot means mounted in said openings in said head and said ears whereby said head can pivot relative to said upstanding ears and to said handle, said pivot means comprises pivot pins extending through the openings in said ears and said head extending within said head, a ratchet wheel is mounted on a pivot pin within said head and wherein a pawl is mounted within said head in contact with said ratchet wheel.

18. A flashlight as set forth in claim 17 wherein said ratchet wheel is a toothed ratchet wheel and is mounted on said pivot pin and is adapted to rotate with the pivotal movement of said head and wherein said pawl has a finger adapted to enter a tooth in said ratchet wheel to hold the head in a predetermined position.
19. A flashlight as set forth in claim 18 wherein a ratchet wheel is mounted on each pivot pin and wherein a pawl is mounted adjacent each ratchet wheel.
20. A flashlight as set forth in claim 19 wherein said ears are flat and wherein said opposed sides are flat.